



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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LA County Probation Plays Key Role in FBI Arrest in Miami Heat Case

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"This was the most interesting case I have worked in my 17 year career in LA County Probation", says the undercover Probation Special Investigations Officer who worked daily with the FBI for the last six months to track the whereabouts of suspect George French Jones. "This case involved celebrities, high profile people and a man on the run. We were glad to provide the assistance that proved essential in helping the FBI make this high profile arrest."

Today, the FBI formally announced that George French Jones, 45, of West Los Angeles was named in an eleven-count felony complaint charging Jones with multiple violations of the California Penal Code including fraud, grand theft and identity theft. An investigation of Jones began last March when the Miami Heat Basketball team contacted law enforcement and alleged that Jones attempted to sell an interest in the Miami Heat organization that he did not own.

Los Angeles County Probation provided a detailed personal profile about suspect George French Jones who absconded from court ordered Probation supervision in 2014, three years in to a five-year probation term for vehicle theft (Penal Code 10851).

The Probation Special Investigations Officer provided the FBI with personal data, including cell phone, addresses, in addition to other electronic data that enabled investigators to track a pattern of activity and movement by their suspect that assisted the FBI in locating Jones' whereabouts.

LA County Probation also requested an emergency bench warrant hearing that resulted in the judge issuing a warrant for his arrest. It was this warrant and the additional case information provided by LA County Probation to the court that gave FBI agents the authority to arrest and detain the suspect behind bars for two-and-a-half critical weeks while the FBI completed its criminal case.